

## PEOPLES OF THE WORLD.

The Aryan or White Race and Its Numerous Divisions.

The division of the earth's population according to race is as follows: Indo-Germanic or Aryan race (white), occupying Europe, America, Persia, India and Australia, about 775,000,000; Mongolian or Turanian (yellow and brown), living in Asia, about 682,000,000; Semitic (white), living in Asia, Arabia, etc., about 130,000,000; negro and Bantu (black), living in Africa, about 150,000,000; Malay and Polynesian (brown), inhabiting Australasia, about 35,000,000; American (Indian red), found in North and South America, number, including halfbreeds, about 25,000,000.

The Slavs are one of the chief divisions of the Aryan race. They are divided, as a race, into two leading families, the eastern and western Slavs. The eastern Slavs comprise the Russians (Great Russians, Little Russians and White Russians); Bulgarians, Serbo-Croats, including the Servians and Montenegrins, and Slovenes in Carinthia, Carniola and part of Syria. The western Slav family is divided into the Poles, in Russia, Austria and Prussia, and the Kussubs; the Czechs, or Bohemians, and the Moravians, with the Slovaks in Hungary, and the Lusatian Wends or Sarbs in Saxony and Prussia. The theory is that their original home was in Volhynia and White Russia.

## VICTIMS OF NIAGARA.

Water Birds Go to Sleep and Are Swept Over the Falls.

Swimming too near the brink of the falls, hundreds of water birds, even swans, ducks and geese, go over Niagara falls to their death each year in the migratory season. So many birds pay the penalty for their daring each year that bird lovers on both the American and Canadian sides of the falls are considering steps to lessen the annual toll of the feathered life.

Since a majority of the victims are claimed in the night, the theory is advanced that the birds go to sleep while swimming and don't wake up until the rapids have carried them over the danger line. Usually they are killed outright in the fall. Sometimes they are only stunned and are picked out of the river below the falls and sold for food.

In 1912, so Ernest Harold Baynes, the naturalist relates, 140 whistling swans went over Horseshoe falls. Boys and men fished the birds out, knocked them on the head and sold them.

"James Savage of Buffalo," Mr. Baynes says, "with some friends once saved a flock of swans by chasing them in a power boat and making them fly away just before nightfall. It was a daring thing for these men to do, for if by any chance the engine had become disabled nothing could have prevented their going over the falls."—Philadelphia North American.

## African Marriage System.

You cannot fancy how deeply complicated the African marriage system is, not how many ramifications there may be to a woman palaver. One day Mr. Heminger was sitting in a hut talking with two members of his congregation, wives of one husband. He was talking to them about their sins, which were of an obvious character. The younger woman had been accused of stealing food. Then he turned to the elder, Wawa, she of the ten children, five of them dead and five of them cruel.

"Wawa," said he, "why cannot you live at peace with this wife of your husband? Why are you always quarreling?" (They are notorious scap-pers.) "Well," said Wawa, "she was bought with one of my children, and I cannot forget it."—Jean Kenyon Mackenzie in Atlantic.

## Antiquity of Shorthand.

Shorthand is apt to be looked upon as an essentially modern art. The predecessors of Pitman—Byron in the eighteenth century, Mason in the seventeenth—are dim and distant figures beyond which it seems useless to venture. Cicero dictated his orations to his freedman, T. Tullius Tiro, and was inconsolable when temporarily deprived of his services. He complained in a letter to a friend that, while "Tiro takes down whole phrases in a few signs, Spintharus (his provisional substitute) only writes in syllables." We need not, however, suppose that the "notae Tironianae" were actually invented by the freedman in question. As M. Guenin points out, the Romans created very few of the arts of peace, contenting themselves, as a rule, by copying from the Greeks. M. Guenin, however, indicates the banks of the Nile as the cradle of the art.

## Blunderbuss.

In using the word "blunderbuss" we unconsciously imply a sense of disparagement for the shooting powers of our forefathers contrasted with the precision of the modern rifle. The word itself has, however, a terrible enough meaning and disdains all connection with "blunder." "Blunderbuss," in fact, as we have it, is a strange corruption—perhaps not altogether untinted with the sense and sound of "blunder"—of the old Dutch word "donderbuss," which can be literally translated into the English "thunder box" or "thunder barrel."

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## OUR ARMY RIFLES

There Are None Better Than Those Made at Springfield.

## IN UNCLE SAM'S BIG ARSENAL.

Processes by Which a Billet of the Finest Steel Is Turned Into One of the Famous 30 Caliber Weapons—The Manufacture of Small Arms.

Had Longfellow lived until today and visited the Springfield arsenal he would find that the famous old gun racks which inspired his verses have vanished. Also he would discover many other changes. The double tiers of gun racks that the New England bard compared to huge pipe organs are gone, save for a small section which has been preserved in the museum. The "burnished arms" with their highly polished barrels are among the things discarded, too, and as for the pattern of the rifle—well, there have been at least a dozen different styles of firearms produced at the famous armory since Longfellow.

Records have it that there have been sixty distinct types of small arms manufactured at Springfield since its establishment during the Revolutionary war. These range from the old "Brown Bess" and Charleville type with their flint locks and smooth bored barrels to the famous "Springfield" of the war between the states period and the still more famous 30 caliber rifle of today, which has been pronounced the most serviceable small arm in the world.

The Springfield armory, with its various foundries, factories, carpenter shops, barracks and storehouses, has cost the United States government in the neighborhood of \$66,000,000. This expenditure has enabled the ordnance department to supply its enlisted men with the best type of army rifle, revolver and saber at a very small cost. Moreover, in periods of pressing need the government has never been hampered by red tape, contracts and special legislation in order to arm its forces. During five wars Springfield has been able to turn out enough arms for immediate service, or at least enough to take care of emergencies, though of course the government has purchased rifles from private firms. During the Spanish war this was necessary because of the quick formation of volunteer troops.

The manufacture of a rifle entails dozens of separate operations and consequently dozens of different kinds of machines are necessary. Indeed, there are ninety-three component parts of a rifle, fifty different operations being required to manufacture the barrel alone. And as for the bayonet, there are twelve separate parts to that simple looking portion of a soldier's equipment.

It is difficult to decide which is the most important, the lock, stock or barrel of a rifle, but from the amount of work involved in all probability the barrel is considered of more consequence by the Springfield gunmakers.

The material from which the barrels are made appears first as short billets of steel. These are placed in a furnace and subjected to intense heat, and when they become deep orange in color they are removed and placed in another furnace where the heat is even greater. By means of long tongs the steel is removed from this heat and put into a peculiar roller equipped with grooves of eleven different sizes. These rollers are operated under tons of pressure, and gradually the billet is formed into a tapering "blank." In this process the man in charge of the rolling mill passes the billet through eleven different grooves, running it twice through the last groove, thus executing twelve distinct operations before the barrel is even shaped. The rifling machine is a long, ugly looking affair that moves very slowly. Four riflings are put into the barrel of a gun and six are cut into the short barrels of the automatic revolvers, which are also made at Springfield. Immediately after the rifling the barrel is chambered and sights are put on. Then the glint of polished steel is killed by a process of "browning" the metal.

In the old days the soldier's rifle was polished and buffed until it fairly glittered. Today every metal part is dulled, first because the old time glint reflected the sunlight and made the soldier a better mark for his enemy, and also because the browning process protects the metal from the weather.—Edison Monthly.

## Provoking a Husband.

A Mohammedan woman cannot of herself separate from her husband without his consent. He may divorce her with a few words spoken by himself. If she is clever, however, she will take him by surprise at an unguarded moment and contrive to do or say something which will make him so angry that before he can exercise sufficient self control to stop himself he has uttered the wished for words.

## Clever Chap.

When I had a caller one day my little son came into the room with his cap on. I said, "Why, John, don't you know you should take your cap off when you come into the house?"

Quickly taking it off, he said, "Oh, yes, I know, but I left it on so I could tip it to the lady."—Chicago News.

It is not what you lose, but what you have daily to bear, that is hard.—Thackeray.

## TRACED IN FIRE.

Glow Pictures Are Spectacular and Easy to Make.

To make glow pictures forty parts of saltpeter are added to twenty parts of gum arabic, and the whole is dissolved in forty parts of water. An ounce or two of this mixture will be sufficient to prepare a good many pictures. A few sheets of white paper should next be secured, and this should be rather thin, similar to that which is used for typewriting.

Now take a clean pen and draw the picture on the paper, using the solution, which should be slightly warmed by standing the bottle in hot water. Anything may be delineated, the only essential point being that all the lines must connect. The final line should be drawn down to the corner of the sheet, and this spot may be indicated with a pencil cross. Hang the sheets up to dry, and when the process is complete the lines are practically invisible.

To bring up the picture first of all turn down the borders of the sheet of paper in such a way that it is raised above the surface which will not be injured by the slight smoldering of the paper. Get a match and light it, placing the glowing end of the point where the pencil cross was made on the sheet.

A trail of red fire will at once start to burn out the picture, following the lines which have been drawn. No other part of the design catches on fire save that which has been treated with the solution. Finally the picture stands up in strong black lines, and the effect is very curious. There is absolutely no danger from fire in this little experiment.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## INTENSIVE WHEAT GROWING.

Startling Results Claimed For a Russian's Methods.

Some years ago, says an English publication, a Russian farmer discovered a method of increasing the yield of wheat in so startling a manner that no one believed he was telling the truth. The Russian declared that it was possible to get seventy pounds of grain from one seed and to make an acre carry forty-five tons.

That does sound like a miracle, and we do not vouch for it, but here is the method, and if any farmer has the patience to try it he will certainly be surprised at the result.

Each grain is planted separately in a sunken bed about fifteen inches deep and three and a half feet in width.

As soon as the grain sprouts the little blade is covered with a thin layer of earth about an inch and a half in depth. The result is that you get three stalks instead of one. At the end of three weeks the hoe comes into use again, and the three stalks being covered with earth, turn into nine stalks. This process on being repeated a third time results in twenty-seven stalks, and the Russian in question repeated it ten times in all, so that at last each grain produced 59,049 stalks. If the seed is first sown in the ordinary fashion and then transplanted to the pit before mentioned you get an even stronger growth, so that after only eight coverings more than 105,000 stalks have been produced from a single grain.—Youth's Companion.

## Mythical Horses.

Pegasus ("born near the source of the ocean") was the winged horse of Apollo and the Muses. Bellerophon rode this animal when he charged the Chimera.

Sleipnir ("the black horse of Odin") had eight legs and could carry his master on sea as well as land. This animal is believed to typify the wind, which blows from eight different points.

Al Borak ("the lightning") was the horse commissioned by Gabriel to carry Mohammed to the seventh heaven. He had a human face and the wings of an eagle. Every step he took was equal to the farthest range of human vision.

According to Thessalian legend, the first horse was miraculously brought forth by Neptune striking a rock with his trident.

## A Voracious Monster.

The most voracious of all marine beasts of prey is the orca, or killer whale. It reaches a length of twenty-five feet, and its jaws bristle with teeth from four to six inches long and as sharp as a dirk knife. Its digestive power is proportioned to the tremendous efficacy of its jaws. It seems also to be an atrocious glutton, as one specimen examined contained in its stomach thirteen porpoises and fourteen seals.

## A Boomerang.

"Call that art!" exclaimed a would be critic, pointing to a painting in a studio. "If that daub is a work of art, then I'm an idiot!"

"The latter part of your statement," rejoined the artist calmly, "would seem to furnish conclusive proof that it is a work of art."

## A Lovers' Quarrel.

She (turning at the door)—I think you are just hateful, and I'm never going to speak to you again, so there's no use coming into the music room after me, because I'll be on the rustic bench at the far end of the conservatory.—Smart Set.

## Drowned His Voice.

Teacher—Tommy, I asked you to spell candy. Why don't you do it? His Sister—Please, miss, his mouth's watering so he can't talk.—Boston Transcript.

It is better to begin a good work in the evening than not at all.—Old Saying.

## COLOSSAL GRAVEYARDS.

Imposing Mountains That Are Built of Animal Skeletons.

Many of the most imposing mountain ranges of the globe are largely made up of limestones composed almost entirely of the hard parts of animals which once lived in the sea, the most important of these rock building forms being of a very small size. The solid earth is, in fact, a colossal graveyard, and many of its most imposing elevations are stupendous tombstones.

The chalk making up the white cliffs to which England owes her name of Albion (Latin, albus, white) is chiefly composed of microscopic shells closely resembling those now found at the bottom of the sea. Hills and mountain ranges largely made of this chalk extend from Britain and France round the shores of the Mediterranean and away into Asia and are largely represented in other parts of the world. Even more remarkable is the limestone of which the pyramids are built.

This is chiefly made up of coin shaped shells (mammulites), partly responsible, no doubt, for eastern legends of magic money. The limestone containing them attains a thickness of several thousand feet and is the material of which many mountain ranges are largely built. Beginning on the west, we have the Pyrenees and Alps, followed by the Carpathians, Caucasus, mountains of Asia Minor, north Africa and Baluchistan and, lastly, the Suleiman mountains, Himalayas and ranges in China and Japan.

## THE JUDGE'S CHARGE.

It Dazed the Culprit's Lawyer, Who Felt He Had Won His Case.

The following experience of a Mississippi lawyer was related by himself years ago. He said:

I was defending a prisoner for horse stealing, and seeing no other means of defending him under the circumstances I set up the plea of insanity. I argued it at length, read many extracts from works of medical jurisprudence and had the patient attention of the court.

The prosecuting attorney did not attempt to reply to my argument or controvert my authorities. I seemed to have things my own way and whispered to the prisoner that he needn't be uneasy.

Then came the judge's charge, in which he reminded the jury that there was no dispute between counsel as to the facts of the case. Indeed, there could not have been, for several witnesses had sworn positively that they saw my client steal the horse.

"But," concluded the court, "the plea of insanity has been set up, and I charge you, gentlemen of the jury, that it should receive your very grave and serious deliberation, but I must be allowed to say, gentlemen, that for myself, upon a review of the whole case, I can discover no evidence of insanity on the part of the prisoner, except perhaps in the selection of his counsel."—Chicago News.

## This Country of Bigness.

America is a quarter section, not a square foot country. It is the land of the biggest lakes, the longest rivers, the fastest trains, the tallest buildings, the land of the huge corporation and the spacious farm and the prodigious industrial enterprise. The inhabitant of this country of bigness feels the urge of these immeasurable interests; therefore his fascination for large figures and enormous scales of measurement. He feels that he must keep up to the pace of business or get out of the game or be run over. One advance step necessitates a longer stride to follow. He must always have his "next." \* \* \* Big and swift business always fascinates the American mind.—From "American Ideals," by Clayton Sedgwick Cooper.

## Habits of the Wildcat.

To say that a dog can "whip his weight in wildcats" is to pay about the highest tribute to his strength, courage and activity, and there are very few dogs that would care to earn such a tribute if they understood all it implied. Not that a wildcat is of a specially aggressive disposition. On the contrary, he would sooner mind his own business any time than fight. So anxious is he as a rule to keep out of trouble that he has often been accused of cowardice, but he has on so many occasions given evidence of the most desperate courage that it is doubtful if the accusation is a fair one. When wounded or at bay he is perhaps as dangerous as any creature of his size.

## The Orkney Islands.

"The member from the Orkneys" is the only man in the British house of commons who can say he sits for 200 islands. Only sixty of the islands are inhabited, but the constituency embraces more than 60,000 people.

The Orkneys were once given by Norway to England as security for a queen's dower and never redeemed. In the islands the voters must go to the polls by boats, and in some cases the distance to be traveled is eight miles.

## Oxen Cavalry.

Madagascar possesses the only oxen cavalry regiment in the world. The climate is so unhealthy for horses that some substitute had to be found. The oxen have been trained to maneuver with surprising skill, but of course are not speedy.

## His Joke.

"Hicks has a job I wouldn't care for—pouring molten metal in a foundry." "Must be hot work." "You bet! He perspires at every pour."—Boston Transcript.

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